

US Forest Service Roles and Responsibilities

Regional Forester

- Authorizes and rescinds restrictions and closures on multiple national forests and/or the entire region.
- Consider providing target relief related to extended closures.

Southwest Area Restriction/Closure Coordinator

- Reports to the Southwest Coordination Center (SWCC) Director and collects restriction, closure, and rescission information from all units.
- Receives restriction, closure, and rescission information at: swa_restrictions@yahoo.com and posts information on the SWCC Web Site.
- Describes the format needed to be able to post maps and documents on the SWCC Web Site.
- Coordinates with the SWCG Information Committee to provide information for the 1-877-864-6985 toll-free restrictions and closures information line.

Law Enforcement

- Assists in development of restriction/closure orders, and reviews and concurs with forest orders before release or implementation.
- Maintains contact with the U.S. Attorney's Office, as appropriate.
- Enforces orders and regulations.
- Coordinates with local law enforcement.
- Consider offering Forest Protection Officer (FPO) training early in the year.
- Anticipate need and arrange for additional law enforcement officers (i.e. detailers under severity funding).

USDA Office of the General Counsel

- Provides legal advice.
- Reviews and comments on orders inconsistent with the pre-approved templates in Appendix A.

Forest Supervisor

- Issues Ranger District and Forest restrictions/closure orders.
- Ensures availability and reliability of data to make decisions regarding fire danger.
- Ensures orders receive review and concurrence by Forest law enforcement personnel.
- Develops an area restrictions and closure plan.
- Develops and implements a communication plan and coordinates with affected interests.

- Monitors the enacted restrictions and/or closures and provides timely feedback to the regional restriction/closure coordinator.
- Encourages training of additional Fire Prevention Officers.
- Ensures protocols are established for Forest Service field work.
- Considers designating Forest and/or District Restriction/Closure Coordinators.

District Ranger

- Authorizes and issues entry/activity permits with appropriate terms and conditions.
- Implements restrictions and closures.
- Establish protocols for Forest Service field work.
- Considers having an all employee meeting regarding restriction/closure implementation procedures.